## RIC 2004 New Reactors / Advanced Reactors Session W7

**NRC** Activities to Prepare for Receipt and Review of Combined License Applications

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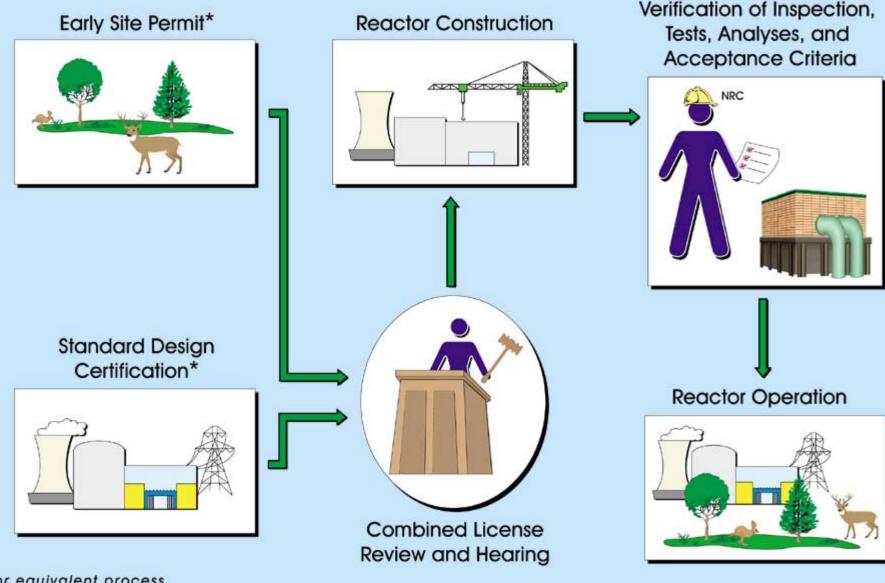
Mary Ann Ashley Inspection Program Branch, NRC March 10, 2004



#### Combined License

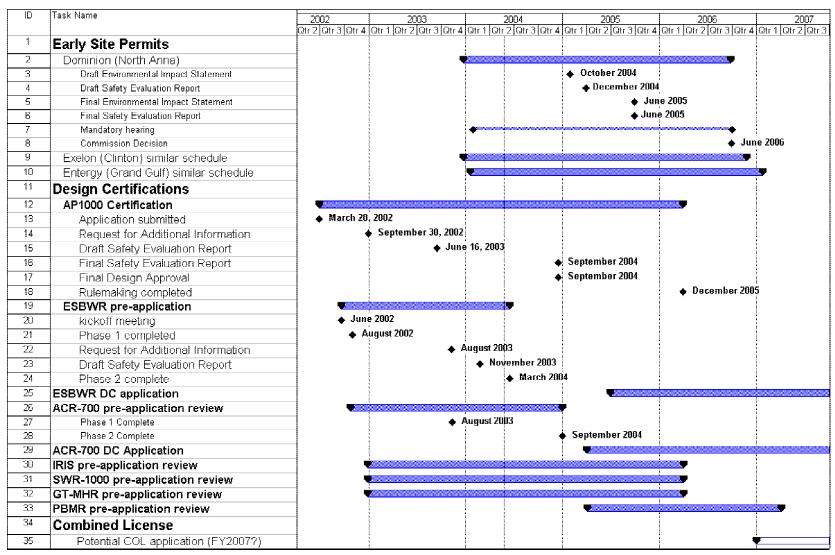
- Combined License (COL) = a combined construction permit and operating license with conditions for a nuclear power plant
- 40-year duration
- COL can reference early site permit, design certification rulemaking, both, or neither
- COL is the fundamental licensing process in Part 52 for reducing regulatory risk for companies building nuclear power plants

#### Combined Licenses, Early Site Permits, and Standard Design Certifications



<sup>\*</sup> or equivalent process

#### New Reactor Licensing Schedule by Fiscal Year



### NRC Planning Information Needs

• To allow appropriate NRC resource planning and budgeting, any potential applicant planning to seek NRC review of a COL application should inform us, in writing, of intent as soon as possible

### New Construction Prerequisites (from the regulator's perspective)

- Maintain safety of licensed plants
- Predictable licensing process
- Meaningful public participation
- Enhanced safety for future plants
- Independent and credible regulator

### NRC Preparations for a Combined License Application

- NRC has been proactive in several areas
  - COL Review Process SECY-00-0092
  - 10 CFR Part 52 Proposed Rule
  - Construction Inspection Program
  - Programmatic inspections, tests, analyses, and acceptance criteria (ITAAC) – SECY-02-0067
  - Emergency Planning (EP) ITAAC
  - Additional COL Issues

# Construction Inspection Program - NRC Challenges -

- More aggressive construction schedules
  - Possible fabrication before COL issued
  - Modular construction multiple locations
- Verifying successful ITAAC completion
  - Unique to Part 52 licensing
- Ensuring compliance with other regulatory requirements
  - Security, fire protection, training, maintenance rule

### Construction Inspection Program - NRC Approach -

- Learn from history
- Use a multi-discipline approach
  - Program office, licensing, regional inspection
- Make work visible
  - Issue draft Framework Document
- Involve stakeholders
  - Public comment on Framework Document
  - Workshop on Framework
  - Construction Inspection Program Information
     Management System Demonstration Project

### Programmatic ITAAC

- Should a COL application contain ITAAC on operational programs such as training and EP (programmatic ITAAC)?
- Commission's September 11, 2002, staff requirements memorandum (SRM) related to SECY-02-0067 provides direction
- Proposal developed in response to the SRM
- Federal Register Notice and Category 3 facilitated and transcribed public workshop held to solicit comments
- Comments will be addressed and proposal developed for the Commission

### Other COL Issues

#### EP ITAAC

- Staff developed draft proposed EP ITAAC
- Issued January 29, 2004
- Workshop scheduled for April 16, 2004, at NRC headquarters to solicit comments

#### COL application guidance

- Started to engage with industry regarding COL application guidance
- NEI targeting end of calendar year 2004 to issue revision 0 of its guidance

### • 23 COL issues have been identified for engagement with industry

 Staff intends to follow the early site permit model to discuss generic issues

### Summary

- Licensing processes are ready to be used
- Modernizing regulatory infrastructure to address advanced reactors
- For more information, visit our website: http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactor-licensing.html